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and partly on misinformation. Granted that, as your editorial suggests, a few of the points made in the Radio Free Europe Fact Sheets were one-sided or ill judged, nevertheless a considerable number of the criticisms were conclusively answered there. Some other matters could not be publicly answered without helping the Communists and, in fact, some of the charges inadvertently duplicate those of the Communists, who have for years concentrated much of their venom on attacks against Radio Free Europe. In still other matters, it seems to me, Fulton Lewis has sent his criticisms to the wrong address.

I also do not agree with all of Radio Free Europe's political policies, but as NATIONAL REVIEW's editorial makes clear, it is manifestly unfair to criticize Radio Free Europe for the foreign policies of the U.S. Government. As a private American organization broadcasting from territories of foreign countries, Radio Free Europe's basic policies naturally would have to be coordinated with those of the U.S. Government and of the host countries, regardless of the question of alleged government control. Therefore, it seems to me that much of the criticism, whether justified or not, makes Radio Free Europe the whipping boy for an oblique attack on U.S. Government policies. Within its limitations, in my opinion, Radio Free Europe has rendered an essential anti-Communist service.

For these reasons I believe that no congressional investigation, with its inevitable publicity, is either wise or necessary. Whether or not a private investigation, such as NATIONAL REVIEW suggests, might be beneficial in clearing up misunderstandings would depend not only on how far both sides are willing to cooperate, but on the discretion with which members of the committee carry out their task. I have complete confidence in the integrity and fairness of those whose names have been suggested, and complete confidence in the constructive motives of NATIONAL REVIEW in proposing this committee, but I disagree, as this letter indicates, with some of the points in your editorial.

I believe that if the committee is set up it should consider not only the validity and accuracy of the charges against Radio Free Europe but the question of their fairness

and justification, such as to what extent, if any, was the presentation of the charges misleading, or less than frank; or the question raised disingenuous or rhetorical. It seems to me that in an investigation of this sort, where political questions are indirectly involved and where personal charges and counter charges have been made, it is only fair to appraise the actions of both parties to the dispute, not just one of them.

If the committee is set up, I will gladly place any information I have at its disposal.

New York City

CHRISTOPHER EMMET

Mr. Emmet Declines

NATIONAL REVIEW's editorial on March 29 proposed a committee of inquiry to investigate the charges by Fulton Lewis, Jr., against Radio Free Europe and mentioned me as a possible member of such a committee. I feel honored to be included with the others on your list but I must decline the honor of serving on the committee if it is set up.

For years I have observed and have had occasional contacts with the operations of Radio Free Europe and, in addition, I have already made a sufficiently thorough study of Mr. Lewis' specific charges to form my own conclusions about them, hence I could not approach the task of this committee with an open mind. I am satisfied that Mr. Lewis' charges are based partly on misunderstanding